Unsurpassed

Mineral Water

Tells of Food Policies.

are fallures and the Argentine promises badly. Russia is unavailable and our

own harvest is poor, while only three-eighths of the normal winter sowing has taken place, owing to bad weather. Un-

"We propose to appoint immediately a director of national service. The mili-

greater sacrifices."

hen the House assembled every seat he floor and in the galleries was in the galleries was in the diplomatic representatives frost Britain's allies occupied seats be gallery for distinguished strangument. On the benches reserved for Lords many members of the Upper so whe took a prominent part in ping about the recent change of remeal. Among them were Lords heliffe, Reading, Burnham, Islington Pirrie. There was also a scattering minion Ministers, including Premier ward of Zealand.

New Zealand.

Sir William Robertson, Chief of the Imperial Staff at army headquarters, ireased in khaki, was in the gallery.

When the Premier entered the House last week:

"Reparation and guarantee against repetition, so there shall be no mistake, and it is important that there should be no mistake in the promier Asquith, who entered a sament later, also was cheered vociferingly by the Liberals.

# ASQUITH'S SCORN.

oke the Gorman Chancel-

N, Dec. 19 .- The former Preer, Mr. Asquith, after declaring that is first duty was to extend congratulawhich be did with all his heart, to Lloyd George upon his accession to brief but pointed reference to the ques-

"The country," he cald, "has just resived some so-called peace proposals rem Germany. True, these proposals we wrapped up with the familiar dialect of Prussian arrogance. But how comes it after two years of war that a Power which professes itself conscious of military superiority and ultimate victory begins to whisper—nay, even to shout so that all the world can hear—the word

"Is this from a sudden access of chiv-iry? When did the German Chancellor ecome so sensitive to the dictates of

That is not a moment for peace. If excapt it is been a peace which achieves the purpose for which we entered the war. Such a peace we would gladly accept. Anything short of it we are bound to repudiate by every obligation of homor, and, above all, by the debt we over those who have given their lives to the cause.

"I see nothing in the note from Germany which gives me the least reason to believe that they are prepared to give us reparation and recurity. If they are a such a mood, if they are prepared to give us reparation for the pant and security for the future let them say so."

Mr. Asquith, in congratulating Mr. Mere he did it was not because he claimed to be the leader of the oposition. Opposition there was none, and his one great desire was to place at the disposal of the Government whatever experience he possessed.

That is not a moment for peace. If excapt in the pape in the pape of the kind for papeal to the grind two and a haif years after exposure by the grim facts is there are convinced that it is best for the result of the gives we the gives well as militarism?

"The note and speech prove that they are prepared to give us reparation and recurity. If they are appeared to give us reparation for the pant and security for the future let them say so."

Mr. Asquith, in congratulating Mr. Levy George, said that if he spoke from where he did it was not because he claimed to be the leader of the oposition of the Government whatever experience he possessed.

That is note a movinced it is dead to the future to over the give and the future to over the grim facts is there are the fact of the grim facts is there are the the future to over the grim facts is there are after exposure by the grim facts is there are after exposure by the grim facts is there are after exposure by the grim facts is there are after exposure by the grim facts is there are after exposure by the grim facts is there are

## SONNINO CRITICAL.

Sees No Basis for Negotiations Germany's Note.

Roms, Dec. 19.—Foreign Minister confine said in the Chamber of Deputies esterday that several resolutions which ad been introduced in the Chamber in

had been introduced in the Chamber in regard to the peace proposals of the Contral Powers seemed to be based on the supposition that the Government had or would have concrete and precise indications as to the bases on which negotiations would be opened.

"This supposition does not correspond with the facts," the Foreign Minister continued. "There is no sign of conditions or bases for negotiations in the enemy's note. I possess no information in regard to eventual conditions of peace beyond the note from the enemy which I read in the Chamber.

"Should propositions he made subsequently we should consider what to do, but it would be neither practical nor proper to discuss that question to-day. Moreover, it should be understood clearly that no one of the Entente Allies could take into consideration any condition whatever which by hypothesis might be eventually offered to him under separate form.

"If we were in the presence of requires."

eparate form.
"If we were in the presence of genuine reposals with bases of a nature to satproposals with bases of a nature to sat-isfy the general postulates of civiliza-tion and justice which I have just men-tiesed none would reject them abruptly. But there is nothing to show even faintly that this is the case, and there are many reasons for believing the con-

"I do not desire to use exaggerated language, but the accent of boastfulness and the lack of sincerity which characterise the preamble to the enemy's note certainly inspire no belief that these mysterious peace conditions which the Central Empires announce they have the intention of exposing later on with the object. object of guaranteeing the existence, honor and free development of their peoples do constitute an answer to the tulates we have laid down.

# place the whole position before this and consult more with ENGLAND SCORNS

"Let me repent—complete restitution, full reperation and effectual guaranties."
Did the German Chancellor use a single phrase to indicate that he was prepared to accept such a peace? Was there a hint of restitution? Was there an suggestion of reparation? Was there an implication of any security for the future, that this outrage on civilization would not again be perpetrated at the first profitable opportunity?

bis. He is not even conscious now that Germany has committed any offence against the rights of free nations. Listen

bis. He is not even conscious now that
Germany has committed any offence
against the rights of free nations. Listen
to this from the note:

"Not for an instant have they (the
Central Powers) swerved from the conviction that respect of the rights of
other nations is not in any degree incompatible with their own rights and
legitimate interests."

"When did they discover this? Where
was respect for the rights of other nations in Belgium and Serbla? That was
self-defence, menace, I suppose, by the
overwhelming armies of Belgium I
suppose the Germans had been intimidated into invading Belgium and burning Belgian cities and villages, into massacring thousands of the inhabitants,
eld and young, into carrying of the survivors into bondage. Yea, and they were
carrying them into slavery at the very

"Topheavy Cabinet."

"An absolutely new army—new men,
new officers taken from schools, from colleges, from counting houses, never trained to war, never
thought of war; many, perhaps, never
thought of war; many, perhaps

We must look elsewhere for the orimon of these proposals. They are born as to the respect due the rights of other all years for peace, but it must be an ations.

"Are these outrages the legitimate inhome waters. But a Cabinet of twendampromise.

"Are these outrages the legitimate interest of Germany? We must know. That is not a moment for peace. If expending the peace of this kind for palpable crimes for which we entered the after exposure by the grim facts is there after exposure that this new craft is best and provided in the provided and the provided and

"I agree with Mr. Lloyd George about up arms. Such phrases are intended to great."

"I agree with Mr. Lloyd George about up arms. Such phrases are intended to delude the German nation into supportant is impossible to apportion the designs of the Prussian military caste, who ever wished to put an end to support in the designs of the Prussian military caste, who ever wished to put an end to supply and demand that will accomplete evacuation with ample the worst it only prolonged the war and the worst it only prolonged the w

"The Allies entered this war to defend Europe against the aggression of Prussian military domination, and having begun it, they must insist that the only end is the most complete effective guarantee against the possibility of that caste ever again disturbing the peace of Europe.

"Prussia since she got into the hands of that caste has been a bad neighbor, arrogant, threatening, bullying, shifting her boundaries at her will and taking one fair field after another from her other. I should consider it as guestion of years; it is a question of months, perhaps weeks; and unless not merely the material resources of the country but the labor of the coun

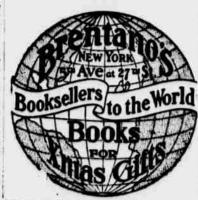
her boundaries at her will and taking one fair field after another from her other. I should consider it a great victor own dominions.

"With her helt ostentations full of the state of the content of the state of t

"With her belt ostentatiously full of weapons of offence and ready at a mo-ment's notice to use them she has alment's notice to use them she has al-ways been an unpleasant, disturbing neighbor in Europe. She got thoroughly on the nerves of Europe. There was no peace near where she dwelt. It is diffi-cult for those who are fortunate enough to live thousands of miles away to un-derstand what it has meant to those who

## War or Humiliation.

"Even here, with the protection of the broad seas between us, we know what a disturbing factor the Prussians



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were with their constant naval menace. But we can hardly realise what it meant to France and Russia. Several times there were threats directed against them even within the lifetime of this generation, which presented the alternative of war or humiliation. There were many of us who hoped that the internal influence in Germany would be strong enough to check and ultimately to eliminate it.

"Now that this great war has been forced by the Prussian leaders it would be folly not to see to it that this swash-buckling through the streets of Europe and this disturbance of peaceful citizens was dealt with here and now as the most serious offence against the law of nations.

"We will wait until we hear what terms and guarantees the German Gev-

inst week:

"Reparation and guarantee against repetition, so there shall be no mistake, and it is important that there should be no instake, and it is important that there should be no mistake in a matter of life or death to millions."

"Let me repeat—complete restitution, full reparation and effectual guarantees.

"Did the German Chancellor use a single phrase to indicate that he was prepared to accept such a peace? Was

pared to accept such a peace? Was there as suggestion of reparation? Was there as suggestion of resulting sentences from the latter part of Mr. Lloyd George's speech:

"An absolutely new army. The old had done its duty and spent itself in the achievement of that great task. This is a new army. A year ago it was ore in the earth of Britain—yea, and of Ireland. It became iron. It has passed through the fiery furnace and the enemy knows that it is now fine steel.

"An absolutely new army—new men, ew officers taken from schools, boys

comforts, its luxuries, its indulgences, its slegances on the national altar consecrated by such sacrifices as these men have made. Let us proclaim during the war a national lent. The nation will be

While it was a relief to be free from the almost unsupportable burden, continued Mr. Asquith, it was also a matter of regret to leave unfinished the task for which he had labored so long. He did not assume the role of apologist for the late government and he denied that these peace suggestions are made resounds to the peace suggestions are made resounds to the beast of Prussian military case, will not be solved, as these peace suggestions are made resounds to the beast of Prussian military triumph. It is a long page nover the victory of Von Hinderburg.

"The prospects regarding finance and transport are serious, but not so serious to to justify misgivings or alarm. But the difficulties will not be solved, as to justify misgivings or alarm. But the difficulties will not be solved, as to justify misgivings or alarm. But the difficulties will not be solved, as to justify misgivings or alarm. But the difficulties will not be solved, as to justify misgivings or alarm. But the difficulties will not be solved, as to justify misgivings or alarm. But the difficulties will not be solved, as to justify misgivings or alarm. But the difficulties will not be solved, as to justify misgivings or alarm. But the difficulties will not be solved, as to justify misgivings or alarm. But the difficulties will not be solved, as to justify misgivings or alarm. But the difficulties will not be solved, as to justify misgivings or alarm. But the difficulties will not be solved, as the purpose for which we entered the gium. They might hurl him across the form the purpose for their existence and the free.

German note states that it was for the burden of victory it won't profit by the triumph, for it is not what a nation gains but what it gives that makes it gains but what it giv

plish that which is necessary to save a velopment so long as it was on the paths nation within the time that it is essential it should be accomplished. It is not "The Allies entered this war to defend a question of years; it is a question of

standing between England and Ireland. I was drenched with suspicion of Irish-I was drenched with suspicion of Irish-men by Englishmen and of Englishmen by Irishmen and worse, and most fatal



What's your hurry, Santa?

You've not only all day to-day, but to-morrow and Friday and Saturday-

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tente Allies he said: "As to our relations with our allies I venture to say we should seek two things—unity of aim and unity of action. Before we can take full advantage of the enormous resources of the Allies there must be some means of arriving at clear decisions and carrying them out. I believe if this is done it will serve to equalise conditions.

"There must be more consultation between men in the matter of the direction of affairs. There must be less feeling that each country has got only its own front to look after. There must be a just be a reality. It is on the other side. Austrian guns are helping the German infantry and German infantry is stiffening the Austrian same and more, instead of having overwhelming upon on one side and bare breasts and gallant breasts on the other."

Paying tribute to the contributions of the dominions to the prosecution of the war. Mr. Lloyd George said the new Administration was just as full of gratitude as the old "for the superb valor of our kinsmen," and he believed the dominions outh to be more fully consulted as to the progress and course of the war.

"We propose, therefore, at an early date," he went on, "to summon an imperial conference and place the whole position before the dominions and take counse we should take together in order to the progress and complete triumph for the ideals they and we are fighting for."

The Political Question.

of all, suspicion by Irishmen of Irishmen.

"It was a quagmire of distrust which clogged my footsteps and made progress impossible. That is the real enemy of Ireland. If that could be shain I believe it would accomplish an act of reconciliation that would make Ireland greater and Britain greater and make the United Kingdom and the empire greater than they ever were before. That is why I have always thought and said that the real solution of the Irish problem is largely one of better atmosphere. I am speaking not merely for myself but for my colleagues when I say we shall atrive to produce that better feeling.

### The Political Question.

Turning to the more purely political of the domestic problems before the new of the domestic problems before the new Ministry, the Premier said:
"We are anxious to avoid all contro-versial questions. The functions of the Premier and leader of the House of After dealing with the peace problem with Premier touched upon the general policy which would be inaugurated by the new Government. With respect to the question of food supplies he said:

"The main facts are plain. The harvests of the United States and Canada vests of the United States and Canada. Commons have been separated because it was believed the double tasks were too much for one man. The organiza-tion of the new Cabinet is beet adapted for the purpose of war. In war you want prompt decision, and the Allies have suffered disaster after disaster from

> Issue Righer Than Party. The Premier's percration was as fol-

Government in distributing our re-sources so that no man shall suffer hunger because somebody else has too much. That means sacrifice, but the men on the Somme are enduring far "If in this war I have paid scant heed to the call of party it is because I realized from the moment the Prussian cannon hurled death at a peaceable and inoffensive little country that a challenge had been sent to civilisation to decide an issue higher than party, deeper than party, wider than all parties, an issue upon the settlement of which will depend the fate of the men in this world for generations, when existing parties will have fallen like dead leaves on the highway. Announcement was made by the Pro-mier that more drastic steps would be taken regarding excess profits. He re-

rage of conflict men forget the high purpose with which they entered it. This is a struggle for international right, international honor, international good faith—the channel along which indispensable, while others will be drawn upon for men required either for the army or for indispensable industries. mong men.
"The embankments laboriously built

"The nation is fighting for life and is entitled to the best services of all citizens. The Government has been fortunate in inducing Arthur Neville Chamberiain, Lord Mayor of Birmingham, to accept the post of Director-General under accept the post of Director-General under brian life will immediately pro-

WHAT ENGLAND WANTS.

this scheme. He will immediately pro-ceed to organize a great system of enrol-ment for industrial purposes."

After making an announcement in re-gard to the nationalization of shipping the Premier said the Shipping Controller was now conferring with the Admiralty Baron Sheffield Gives His Views

was now conferring with the Admiralty and that he hoped it would be possible shortly to announce not merely the plan for more effective use of ships on the register but for the construction of ships to make good the wastage of was.

Dealing with the war situation, the Premier said he had to paint a stern but not gloomy picture. The Rumanian blunder was an unfortunate one but at "The complete was an unfortunate one statement of the complete was an unfortunate of the

blunder was an unfortunate one, but at the worst it only prolonged the war and could not affect it. It might have a salutary effect in calling the attention of the Allies to obvious defects of or. situation from becoming worse they had taken strong action in Greece. They sation to those forcibly torn from thely were taking no risks. They had decided homes and sent to servile labor under to recognize the agents of former Predict of the service labor under the recognize the agents of former Predict of the service labor under the servic those put to death by the invade

Growth of the Army.

Speaking of the western front he referred to the growth of the British armies there, and added:

"I am convinced ultimate victory is sure if the nation shows the same spirit of endurance and readiness to learn as the mudstained armies at the front."

Of the cooperation between the Enpensation for lives sacrificed in all such

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ties we demand for the future. As treaty obligations are treated by Germany as scraps of paper we should demand, antecedent to negotiations, the withdrawal of Germany's forces and those of her allies from all territory outside the limits of their former dominions.

"When the Germans assent and comply with these terms we can begin to discuss any further agreement leading

editor of Le Matin of Paris, after he had joyfully read the cabled reports of Lloyd George's speech. He said the British Premier had correctly interpreted the feelings of all the Entente Allies. He did not believe Germany would comply with the Premier's suggestion that she state her terms. He hardly thought that a peace conference would result from the negotiations which Germany has attempted to start. He felt the war would have to go on for at least a year. at least a year.
"For," he said, "not until Germany

"For," he said, "not until Germany admits that she is vanquished will she be in a frame of mind that will make discussion of peace worth while. She does not admit it. Her professed attitude is that of a victor. So what would be the use of a conference? Nothing could come of it. I do not expect she will make any reply to the notes of the Allies that will in any way satisfy them. "I say her proposal was a trick that didn't work because neither the Allies nor the neutrals whom it was designed to impress have been deceived by it. I am sure all Frenchmen were pleased

highway.

"Those issues are the issues I want to keep in front of the nation, so that we shall not faiter or faint in our resonant we shall not faiter or faint in our resonant we shall not faiter or faint in our resonant we shall not faiter or faint in our resonant we shall not faiter or faint in our resonant would not completely indorse. Mr. Lloyd George has not only spoken as would have spoken M. Briand, but has spoken as any Frenchman would speak. "And this is the most striking feature. English people, belonging to two differ-ent races, having two different currents of blood in the veins. And these two

the battlefield where they are fighting side by side, but they are morally united, having the same feelings, the same thoughts and the same words to

side by side, but they are morally united, having the same feelings, the same thoughts and the same words to express their thoughts and their feelings.

"You have never seen that before in the same words to gium, to Russia. There was never such ings.

"You have never seen that before in the such a determination to breek the same words to gium.

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